



Los Angeles County Commission on Disabilities

Celebrating 34 Years of Leadership & Advocacy

www.laccod.org

MEMBERS

Janet A. Neal
President

John B. Troost
1st Vice President

Wan Chun Chang
2nd Vice President

Alexia Teran
Treasurer

Michael G. Gureckas
John R. James
Maria Mustelie-Parrish
Harley D. Rubenstein
Kecia Weller
Wendy L. Welt
Sheila D. Wright

SUMMARY OF NOTES

The regular meeting of the Los Angeles County Commission on Disabilities was held on Wednesday, **October 21, 2009**, in Room 140 of the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012.

Due to lack of a quorum, the meeting was unable to be officially called to order but began at 1:10 p.m. The following were present:

ATTENDANCE

Present

Janet A. Neal, President
John B. Troost, 1st Vice President
Michael G. Gureckas
John R. James
Maria Mustelie-Parrish
Wendy L. Welt

Board of Supervisors

Rhonda Rangel, Staff
Mireya Rivera, Staff
Audra Galang, Staff

Excused Absence

Wan Chun Chang, 2nd Vice President
Alexia Teran, Treasurer
Harley Rubenstein
Kecia B. Weller
Sheila Wright

Los Angeles County

Kurt Hagen, OAAC

Access Services, Inc.

Giovanna Gogreve, OAAC

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 16, 2009

In the absence of a quorum, the minutes of September 16, 2009 was deferred to the next meeting for approval.

Commissioner Gureckas requested President Neal to move and to correct the minutes now. President Neal asked Commissioners for additions and corrections. As there was no response from the Commissioners, President Neal recommended the Commission to approve the minutes in the next meeting.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Neal addressed the Members of the Public about disruptive behavior. Disruptive behavior will not be tolerated by the Commission. Members of the Public not wishing to listen to presenters before the Commission may excuse themselves or will be asked to leave the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Linda Block provided public comment.

STAFF REPORT

Rhonda Rangel, Commission Services Staff, reported the following:

1. Commissioner Rubenstein would like to invite Commissioners to staff a table for an upcoming Disability Awareness Month Celebration on October 29, 2009, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., at the Long Beach Convention and Entertainment Center. President Neal encouraged Commissioners to join Commissioner Rubenstein to assist with the community outreach.
2. Distribute information on the consolidation of the City of Los Angeles Commission on Disability Special Public Hearing on November 4, 2009, 1:00 p.m. at Los Angeles City Hall, Board of Public Works, Room 350, 200 North Spring Street.

PRESENTATION FROM MS. MARY SANDERS ON 211 L A COUNTY

Ms. Mary Sanders, Community Liaison of 211 L A County gave a brief report on Bill HR 211 and distributed 211 brochures.

211 is a FREE number whether using a landline or a cell phone. It has been funded by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors for 28 years. This social service hot line operates 24 hours a day for 7 days in 40 available languages. The 211 provides emergency food, shelters and clothing resources. Ms. Sanders also invited everyone for a tour of the 211 Call Center.

After questions and answers, President Neal thanked Ms. Sanders for her informative presentation.

(Commissioner Wendy Welt joined the meeting at 1:15 p.m.)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Executive Committee

1. The Commission on Disabilities' retreat will be on January 2010 in San Pedro.

President Neal welcomed the new Commission on Disabilities' Commissioner John R. James of the Third District. He briefly introduced himself. Commissioner James is a former member of the City of Los Angeles Commission on Disabilities and currently works at Pierce College.

B. Public Relations Committee

Radio Program – Disability Network, KTYM 1460 AM

President Neal reported that she took off the month of September because of a death in her family and will be back next month with new shows.

C. Events Committee

President Neal applauded all staff members for a very good job on the 2009 Access Awards Luncheon event. She would like to write a letter to all sponsors thanking them for their support. President Neal suggested consideration of changing the venue to the Music Center.

D. Bill Tainter Scholarship Program

No reportable action was taken.

E. Community Service Committee

No reportable action was taken.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Francisco Vidrio gave a public comment on City Ride program. Commissioner Neal suggested inviting a representative from CityRide to the next Commission meeting.

TRANSPORTATION

A. Access Services, Inc. (ASI) Report

Kurt Hagen introduced Ms. Giovanna Gogreve, Operations Analyst with Access Services. Ms. Gogreve replaced Mr. Luis Pacheco as representative of Access Services, Inc. Mr. Hagen reported the following:

1. The most recent Access Services, Inc. Board meetings were held on September 28 and October 12, 2009.
2. At the September 28, 2009 meeting, approval of office space lease and numerous locations were looked at.
3. METRO Tap Program is an access pass to METRO.
4. The Access Services Board reappointments end in October, 2009.
5. Presentation on the new revenue software to be improved.
6. Sensitivity training on both the providers and the riders was proposed.

After further discussion, Mr. Hagen's report was received and filed.

OFFICE OF AFFIRMATIVE ACTION COMPLIANCE REPORT

Kurt Hagen reported that the Department is now working with the Department to analyze their transition plans and develop a long-range plan. His Department is also working with County Counsel and the Office of Emergency Management on a lawsuit that has been filed against the City and the County alleging that the City and County's Emergency Preparedness Plans are deficient when addressing the needs of people with Disabilities. Mr. Hagen also reported on funding that was awarded to the Department of Parks and Recreation to help address complaints are Roy Campanella Park and the Eaton Canyon Golf Course. President Neal thanked Mr. Hagen and also requested information on accessibility at the Marina.

Mr. Hagen also introduced Deputy Compliance Officers Lorena Gomez and Ken Sleu.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Marlina Tony, a resident of Compton, complained about the bus service going to Torrance.

B. LA County Transportation Authority (METRO) Report

In lieu of a formal report, Chip Hazen requested the Commission to ask questions about METRO. Mr. Hagen did provide an update on the wheelchair evaluations and reported that the contract is slow because they have not evaluated the number of wheelchairs that they had anticipated. As a result, they are now doing in home wheelchair evaluations. Mr. Hazen also reported that the disabled parking at the North Hollywood Station is

being moved and expanded. Lastly, Mr. Hazen reported that the Gold Line may be opened in November.

After further discussion, President Neal thanked Mr. Hazen for his informative report.

ITEMS NOT ON THE POSTED AGENDA FOR CONSIDERATION ON A FUTURE AGENDA

1. Access Services, Inc. Issues
2. METRO Rider Issues
3. Blue Curb Process

ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Neal announced the November 4, 2009 Special Public Hearing on City of Los Angeles.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting ended at 3:00 p.m.

GUESTS

Kaylin Awit
Michelle Baxley, Destiny World Travel
Linda Block
Phyllis Coto, Los Angeles County Client Coalition
Lorena Gomez, Office of Affirmative Action Compliance
Jane Goodman, Total Recall Captioning, Inc.
Chip Hazen, ADA Compliance Officer METRO
Anthony Narro
Jesse Padilla, East Los Angeles Regional Center
Mary Sanders, 211 L A County
Ken Slu, Office of Affirmative Action Compliance
Marlina Tony
Francisco Vidrio, Get Involved Productions
Cindy Vitto, Los Angeles County Client Coalition